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priest, Wang Tao-Shi, who knew enough about its value to induce him to shut it off with a brick wall. Stein cleverly played off his appreciation of the famous Chinese Buddhist pilgrim to India, Hsüan-Tsang, so as to establish a bond of sympathy between himself and Wang, by placing himself in the light of another such pious devotee and admirer of the Buddha. When he succeeded in catching the first glimpse of the library, it appeared as a solid mass of bundles of manuscripts and votive paintings on silk, rising from the floor to a height of ten feet and filling, as was found later, about five hundred cubic feet. The collection had lain buried in its rock chapel for centuries, and had been espied by Wang Tao-Shi through a crack in a closed up chamber. This Wang afterwards further fortified with a brick wall in front of the crack.

Stein's story of how he parleyed and fenced with the Tao-Shi in order to induce him first to show, and later on to put aside, "for further inspection", the most promising of the manuscripts makes very good reading indeed. In the end a sort of system of transfer precipitated itself. For seven nights Stein's own Chinese assistant, Chiang-ssu-yeh, also a scholar zealous in the same cause, came to his tent when everybody had gone to sleep, "his slight figure panting under loads which grew each time heavier, and ultimately required carriage by instalments". And with it all Stein kept the good Tao-Shi, though he was not altogether averse to bakshish, in the belief that he was really performing a pious deed from his own point of view. Stein's haul consisted of twenty-four cases of manuscripts written in Sanskrit, Central Asiatic Brahmi, Sogdian, Manichean Turkish, Runic Turkish, Uigur, Tibetan, and Chinese; also five cases of votive paintings and embroideries. One single manuscript in Brahmi writing, an hitherto unknown language, is upon a gigantic roll of paper, over seventy feet long, and a foot wide. The find at the "Caves of the Thousand Buddhas" represents, perhaps, the most important single act in Turkestan exploration. It will require years to elaborate all its results for Central Asiatic history, philology, and art.

On the return voyage the expedition passed across the great mountain range of the Kun-lun into Khotan and Keriya, at a height of 20,000 feet. Here Stein had the misfortune to lose the toes of his right foot through frost-bite, and had to have himself carried, a helpless invalid, for a distance of three hundred miles. Naïvely he says, that he was comforted by the thought that he had carried out his programme, the visible results of which appeared later on in the shape of one hundred cases of antiquities which reached the British Museum in safety.

MAURICE BLOOMFIELD.

South American Archaeology. An Introduction to the Archaeology of the South American Continent with special Reference to the Early History of Peru. By THOMAS ATHOL JOYCE, Assistant of the British Museum. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1912. Pp. xv, 292.)

STUDENTS of South American archaeology have long been in need of a book dealing with all the complicated problems of that subject. In the past only limited areas were dealt with and very little attempt was made in the way of classification of objects or in limiting the extent of cultures. The work in hand therefore fulfils a long-felt want as far as it is possible to do so in the present state of knowledge. Mr. Joyce has succeeded admirably in giving a comprehensive view of the whole field and where possible has explained and classified the details of the different cultures. Any classification must necessarily be inadequate because of the many gaps. No one area has been thoroughly explored and in many regions nothing whatever has been done.

The work limits itself to the continent of South America and commences with the region of Colombia. Four cultures are here described: 1st, that of the agriculturists of Antioquia in the north; 2nd, that of the gold workers, the Quimbaya, in the south; 3rd, that of the Coconuco in the west; 4th, that found in the highlands, where the Chibchas had developed a higher civilization than the rest of the Colombians. Religions and customs are described in some detail so that the arts and crafts may be understood.

In Ecuador there existed a state politically more advanced than the Chibchas but inferior to that of the Inca by whom it was later conquered. The Cara made alliances with other tribes but these loose bonds broke under the Inca invasion. The origin of the mountain culture is difficult to explain. The tradition of the arrival of a tribe at Lambayeque, in Peru, which migrated up the coast and later into the interior, probably has some basis in fact. The work of the Heye expedition in Manabi and Esmeraldas gives a good idea of the coast culture. Evidence of Inca occupation is found as far north as the river Ancasmayu.

Three-fourths of the whole book is given up to the Peruvians and their influence: the Empire, Government, Daily Life and Occupations, Burial and Religion, Sequence of Cultures, Arts and Crafts, and the Southern Provinces. This region was pretty thoroughly covered by Sir Clements Markham in his recent book *The Incas of Peru*. Dr. Max Uhle is given full credit for his splendid work and his classification of cultures is for the most part adopted. Abundant evidence is presented to prove the influence of the Peruvian culture in Argentina and Chile.

In the southern Andes and plains there is found a lower culture characterized by individual freedom and equality. The dominating tribe, the Araucanians, were a spirited people who maintained themselves against the encroachment of the Incas and the Spaniards as well. In the Patagonian area implements of palaeolithic type have been found associated with the remains of extinct animals. This may prove the recent extinction of these animals rather than the great age of man.

The chapter on the east and central regions brings together the little archaeological material available. The territory is now occupied by the Ges, Tupi, Carib, and Arawak stocks, but it is impossible to determine

which of these, if any, were responsible for the earlier cultures revealed in the shell-heaps and mounds.

The work concludes with a bibliography and a summary of the localities in which investigation is especially required. The book is well written and profusely illustrated. Those interested will find it a valuable contribution.

WILLIAM CURTIS FARABEE.

The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea: Travel and Trade in the Indian Ocean by a Merchant of the First Century. Translated from the Greek and annotated by WILFRED H. SCHOFF, A.M., Secretary of the Commercial Museum, Philadelphia. (New York, London, Bombay, and Calcutta: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1912. Pp. 323.)

IN placing at the disposition of English readers this first-century account of the voyage down the Red Sea and coastwise to the eastern shores of India, by an unknown Egyptian merchant writing in Greek, the author has performed a valuable service. His version of the Greek, though profiting especially by the German rendering of Fabricius, is, on the whole, superior to his predecessor's. He has shown great industry in collecting the references from the widely scattered ancient and modern sources from which his copious commentary is drawn.

The *Periplus* largely consists of lists of geographical names and commercial products of the eastern world. It is an itinerary and an invoice combined. It would be impossible to discuss here the long array of highly specialized questions which the author has been obliged to take up in his discussions. Archaeologically they occasionally fall short. To quote Pliny's childish story as a sufficient authority on the question of the origin of glass (p. 68), when we now know that glass emerged on the Nile some three thousand five hundred years before Pliny was born, will do in Wendell Phillips's lecture on the Lost Arts (where Pliny's story really does figure), but is entirely insufficient in a modern commentary on the *Periplus*. A few words from the last edition of the *Britannica* would have set this matter right if the standard treatises on glass were inaccessible to the author. Again we have Pliny quoted to show that "the method of weaving cloth with more than two threads [of different color] was invented at Alexandria". This is the art of tapestry which was practised in Egypt over a thousand years before Alexandria was founded. We have a beautiful specimen from the reign of Amenhotep II. (fifteenth century B.C.).

In the discussion of cotton (p. 71) it would be well to note that tree-cotton (*Gossypium arboreum*) was cultivated in Assyria as early as the seventh century B.C., when the importation of the trees is a matter of royal record. Sayce's statement that cotton was exported from India to Babylonia in the fourth millennium B.C. is of course based on the old and obsolete chronologies of early Babylonia. It is now evident that we know nothing of Babylonia in the fourth millennium.